

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A sputtering target transport box, comprising:
a plate-shaped sputtering target having opposite faces and an outer peripheral edge;
an inner sputtering target retention frame defining a void the size of said
sputtering target, said sputtering target being positioned in said void
within said retention frame such that said retention frame extends
continuously about and supports said outer peripheral edge, and said
retention frame preventing movement of said sputtering target relative to
said retention frame;
a plastic inner box having a lower plate and an upper plate, said retention frame
being positioned within said inner box between said lower and upper
plates such that movement of said retention frame and sputtering target
relative to said inner box is prevented, such that said lower and upper
plates cushion and buffer said opposite faces of said sputtering target, and
such that said plate-shaped sputtering target is entirely encapsulated and
cushioned by said retention frame and lower and upper plates;
a separate outer box formed of aluminum or wood and having an outer frame, a
bottom plate, and a cover providing an inner size that is greater than said
inner box, the inner box charged with the sputtering target is insertable

within the outer box for transport and is independently removable from the outer box; and

stationary supports for mechanical transport extend from the bottom plate of said outer box and wheels for man-powered transport are mounted directly to and integral with said bottom plate adjacent only a rear edge of said bottom plate and not adjacent an opposite front edge of said bottom plate, the height of the supports is greater than the height that each of the wheels extends from the bottom plate of the outer box such that the outer box is supported on said wheels only when the outer box is inclined on a floor face.

Claims 2-10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (currently amended): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 1, wherein a handle is mounted on a side face ~~or the bottom plate~~ of the outer box opposite the wheels and at a location above said bottom plate and supports, and wherein the transport box is inclined during transport when utilizing the handle such that the transport box is supported on the wheels and the supports do not interfere with the floor face.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 11, wherein a resin or wood material is affixed to respective faces of the periphery, corners and supports of the outer box to cushion impact with the floor face of a building.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 12, wherein a conductive thin film is affixed to an outer surface of the outer box to prevent electrification.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 13, wherein a through-type hold is provided on the inner box adjacent an upper rim of said inner box to simplify removal of said inner box from said outer box.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 14, wherein a cushion material is provided between the outer box and inner box.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 15, further comprising a joint removably fixing the cover of the outer box to the outer frame of the outer box.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 1, wherein a resin or wood material is affixed to respective faces of the periphery, corners and supports of the outer box to cushion impact with the floor face of a building.

Claim 18 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 17, wherein a conductive thin film is affixed to an outer surface of the outer box to prevent electrification.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 18, wherein a through-type hold is provided on the inner box adjacent an upper rim of said inner box to simplify removal of said inner box from said outer box.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 19, wherein a cushion material is provided between the outer box and inner box.

Claim 21 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 20, further comprising a joint removably fixing the cover of the outer box to the outer frame of the outer box.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 1, wherein a conductive thin film is affixed to an outer surface of the outer box to prevent electrification.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 22, wherein a through-type hold is provided on the inner box adjacent an upper rim of said inner box to simplify removal of said inner box from said outer box.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 23, wherein a cushion material is provided between the outer box and inner box.

Claim 25 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 24, further comprising a joint removably fixing the cover of the outer box to the outer frame of the outer box.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 1, wherein a through-type hold is provided on the inner box adjacent an upper rim of said inner box to simplify removal of said inner box from said outer box.

Claim 27 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 26, wherein a cushion material is provided between the outer box and inner box.

Claim 28 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 1, wherein a cushion material is provided between the outer box and inner box.

Claim 29 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 1, further comprising a joint removably fixing the cover of the outer box to the outer frame of the outer box.

Claim 30 (previously presented): A sputtering target transport box according to claim 1, wherein said sputtering target is disc-shaped, brittle, and made of a metal or ceramic material and said void of said inner sputtering target retention frame is of a disc-shape substantially matching the shape of the disc-shaped sputtering target.